

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) An isolated, natural or synthetic peptide, characterized in that it comprises at least any one of the sequences comprising SEQ ID NO : 1 to SEQ ID NO : 10, in which R₁ and R₂ represent, the amino acid at position 16 and the amino acid at position 23 represent independently or simultaneously, a cysteine or a serine.

Claim 2. (Currently Amended) The peptide as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that it corresponds to any one of the sequences SEQ ID NO : 1 to consisting of SEQ ID NO : 10.

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) The peptide as claimed in either one of claims 1 or 2, characterized in that its sequence is substantially homologous to at least one of the sequences SEQ ID NO : 1 to An isolated peptide, which has at least 60% similarity with SEQ ID NO : 10 and which has conserved an antimicrobial activity.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) The peptide as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3 claim 1, of which wherein at least one amine and/or carboxylic, free functional group is protected by a protective group.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) The peptide as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that wherein the C-terminal carboxylic group and/or the other carboxylic groups present in the molecule peptide are in the form of an ester or of an amide.

Claim 6. (Currently Amended) The peptide as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that wherein the N-terminal amine group, and/or the other free amine groups present in the molecule, are in acylated form.

Claim 7. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising at least one peptide ~~such as described in any one of claims 1 to 6 as claimed in claim 1~~ and at least one appropriate vehicle.

Claims 8-29 (Cancelled)

Claim 30. (New) A composition comprising at least one peptide as claimed in claim 4 and at least one appropriate vehicle.

Claim 31. (New) A composition comprising at least one peptide as claimed in claim 6 and at least one appropriate vehicle.

Claim 32. (New) The peptide as claimed in claim 2, wherein at least one amine and/or carboxylic, free functional group is protected by a protective group.

Claim 33. (New) The peptide as claimed in claim 32, wherein the C-terminal carboxylic group and/or the other carboxylic groups present in the peptide are in the form of an ester or of an amide.

Claim 34. (New) The peptide as claimed in claim 33, wherein the N-terminal amine group and/or the other free amine groups present in the peptide are in acylated form.

Claim 35. (New) The peptide as claimed in claim 3, wherein at least one amine and/or carboxylic, free functional group is protected by a protective group.

Claim 36. (New) The peptide as claimed in claim 35, wherein the C-terminal carboxylic group and/or the other carboxylic groups present in the peptide are in the form of an ester or of an amide.

Claim 37. (New) The peptide as claimed in claim 36, wherein the N-terminal amine group and/or the other free amine groups present in the peptide are in acylated form.